

REMARKS

New claims 13-17 are in the application. Claims 1 - 12 are cancelled.

The rejection of the claims under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiSalvo et al (6,246,558) in view of Halbeck (4002,951) and Knecht et al (5,635,690) is traversed.

In our invention, see Figs. 31 and 32, the receptacle is mechanically tripped when a plug is inserted into the receptacle, and the receptacle is again mechanically tripped when the plug is removed from the receptacle.

See Page 26 of the application where it is stated that "Fig. 31 illustrates the relationship and position of the trigger arm, projection on the trigger arm and sliding plate when a plug is in a socket; and Fig. 32 illustrates this relationship when a plug is removed from the receptacle of a GFCI. It is to be noted that, see Fig. 31, when a plug is inserted into a GFCI, the receptacle will trip the GFCI mechanically. In Fig. 32, as the plug is removed it will again trip the GFCI mechanically..." (Underscoring added for emphasis).

None of the references disclose or even suggest the structure which we disclose and now positively recite in our independent claims, that being that each time a user inserts and removes a plug from the receptacle of a GFCI, a mechanical mechanism within the device causes the GFCI to trip, and the user must then press the reset button before power can be restored.

In Halbeck, as a plug is inserted into the receptacle, contacts 50 momentarily close to simulate a ground fault which causes the device to trip. Thus, Halbeck causes the device to trip electrically, not mechanically as we disclose and now positively recite in our claims. No where does Halbeck disclose or even suggest that his device is or can be tripped mechanically.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable reconsideration by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for the amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1561 of Greenberg Traurig, LLP.

In the event that an extension of time is required to make this amendment timely filed, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this amendment timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit an overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 50-1561 of Greenberg Traurig, LLP.

Respectfully submitted,



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